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House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
April 9, 2014.

I hereby appoint the Honorable JOHN J. DUNCAN, Jr., to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

JOHN A. BOEHNER,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 7, 2014, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with each party limited to 1 hour and each Member other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip limited to 5 minutes, but in no event shall debate continue beyond 11:50 a.m.

FLORIDA BEACH RENOURISHMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida (Mr. JOLLY) for 5 minutes.

Mr. JOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to discuss an issue of critical importance to my community, to Florida's 13th Congressional District of Pinellas County, Florida, but also to coastal communities around the country—the issue of beach renourishment.

There is an urgency that I want to express today on behalf of communities like Treasure Island, Florida. The Federal Government has invested in beach renourishment for the past 50 years,

and it has done so alongside State and local municipalities and State and local governments, who have also made a priority in investing in beach renourishment.

This year alone, State and local governments will likely invest nearly \$100 million in beach renourishment projects, and it is for good reason. Beach renourishment addresses a very critical issue of pre-storm mitigation, it protects communities from flooding, it protects communities from losses to property, from losses to critical infrastructure, and it ultimately reduces disaster assistance when such assistance is needed.

Beach renourishment also protects our environment, it protects against damage to habitats critical to environments, it encourages stronger environments, cleaner environments; and, perhaps most importantly, beach renourishment programs invested in by State and local governments and our Federal Government contribute to jobs and economic growth in communities across the country.

We have industries that exist in communities in my district, like Clearwater Beach and St. Pete Beach, and in communities across the country whose jobs and economic growth and local economy rely on international visitors and visitors from around the country.

In Florida alone, we will more than double visits to our beaches as compared to visits to all U.S. national parks combined. It takes jobs and employees to support those visitors, and it is critical to our local economy that we continue the investment in beach renourishment projects.

So I rise today with a sense of urgency. When this House, this body, considered the Water Resources Reform and Development Act, it passed a responsible bill, but one that did not include continued authorization for important beach renourishment projects. That legislation is now in

conference, and I am here today to ask my colleagues that we not let this provision slip by. We must reauthorize these programs.

So I would urge the conferees on the Water Resources Reform and Development Act to strongly consider bringing back language that reauthorizes programs, or at least allows for the reauthorization of programs, that are soon to expire. I ask my colleagues to be receptive to that language should it come back.

I would like to thank today my chairman on the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee for allowing me to work with him in the very few weeks that I have been here on this issue that is of critical importance to my district, but also to districts around the country.

HONORING THE FLYING TIGERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Maine (Mr. MICHAUD) for 5 minutes.

Mr. MICHAUD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the members of the American volunteer group known as the Flying Tigers for their heroic service to the United States of America during World War II. The Flying Tigers consisted of ex-personnel from the Navy, Marines, and the Army Air Corps. Operating out of China, they trained in secret, and shortly after the attack on Pearl Harbor began a series of heroic battles against the Japanese aircraft squadrons.

Working together with the Chinese and the Royal Air Force, the Flying Tigers drove back attacks on the port of Rangoon in Burma, and became celebrated for their tactical victories.

On July 4, 1942, the Flying Tigers were absorbed into the 23rd Fighter Group, and their distinctive shark-faced planes remain among the most recognizable of any aircraft from World War II.

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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